

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Colby

This chronological summary of General Walters' memoranda (including one from the DCI) was prepared after the first package had been completed. It is forwarded as a companion piece although packaged separately.

 WVB

(DATE)

CHRONOLOGY OF DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING
CIA'S ROLE WITH REFERENCE TO
MEXICAN OPERATIONS, ETC.

WALTERS' MEMORANDA

23 June 1972

28 June 1972 memo (#1)

Helms and Walters met at White House with Ehrlichman and Haldeman. Haldeman said FBI investigation leading to "a lot of important people." He asked what connection CIA had. Helms said none.

Haldeman is quoted in the memorandum as saying it was "the President's wish" that Walters call on FBI Acting Director Gray and suggest that the arrest of five suspects was sufficient and that it was not advantageous to push the inquiry, "especially in Mexico, etc."

Helms said he had talked to Gray the previous day and told him (1) the Agency was not behind the matter, (2) none of the suspects was working for the Agency, and (3) none had worked for the Agency in the past two years. He told Gray none of the FBI's investigations was touching any covert projects of the Agency.

Haldeman stated Walters could tell Gray he had talked to the White House and suggest the investigation not be pushed further. Gray would be receptive, as he was seeking guidance.

Helms repeated the Agency was unconnected with the matter. Walters agreed to talk with Gray "as directed."



(b)(3)

~~SECRET~~

18 May 1973 memo

When Walters showed the 28 June 1972 memo to Helms, the DCI said that specific reference was not made to the President, it being only implicit. Walters agreed.

23 June 1972

28 June 1972 memo (#2)

Walters met with Gray at the FBI. He said he had come after talking to the "White House," without mentioning names. Stating his (Walters) familiarity with the Gray-Helms discussion the previous day, said that while the Watergate investigations had not touched any Agency projects its continuation might. They noted the working agreement between CIA and the FBI on such matters. Gray said his problem was how to "low key" the matter. There was a matter of a check of \$89,000 on a Mexican bank, and asked if the name Dahlberg meant anything. Walters did not know the name. Gray noted the awkwardness of the issue arising in election year. Walters said if investigations were pushed "south of the border" it could trespass on CIA covert projects. In view of the arrests Walters said it would be better to taper off the matter.

Gray said he would have to talk to John Dean.

26 June 1972

28 June memo

Dean phoned Walters saying he wished to discuss the matter discussed with Haldeman and Ehrlichman on 23 June. Walters checked with Ehrlichman who said talk freely with Dean.

Walters met Dean at his office. Dean reviewed the investigation, one theory being that CIA was involved. Walters said he was sure the Agency was not involved. Dean asked if he was sure, and said he believed that Barker had been involved in a break-in of the Chilean Embassy.

Dean said the suspects were "wobbling," to which Walters replied they could not implicate the Agency. Dean asked if the Agency could arrange bail for the suspects and for their salaries.

Walters pointed out the limitations of his authority. He said the Agency should remain apolitical, and that if it did not, it would leak out with stronger repercussions.

18 May 1973 memo

Walters states that he told Dean on 26 June that if he did as Dean asked "Those who were not touched by the matter would be so."

27 June 1972

29 June 1972 memo (#1)

Walters met Dean in EOB. He reported a conversation with Helms to the effect if CIA did as Dean wished he would have to clear with the CIA Oversight Committees in both House and Senate.

Walters emphasized that following Dean's proposed course would enlarge the problem.

28 June 1972

29 June 1972 memo (#2)

Walters met Dean at EOB. Dean said the DCI's meeting with Gray was cancelled and Ehrlichman had suggested Gray deal with Walters instead. Dean said the problem was how to stop the investigation (FBI) beyond the five suspects.

Leads led to a Mexican named Guena and to Dahlberg, the latter refusing to answer any questions.

Walters said as DDCI he had no independent authority and the idea that he could act independently was a delusion. In response to Dean's request for suggestions, Walters observed that the affair already had a strong Cuban flavor. Given Cuban proclivities for conspiratorial activity it might be plausible to attribute as a motive their interest

28 June 1972 (continued)

in knowing what both parties felt towards Castro. Dean said this might be the best tack, but it might cost a half million dollars.

Agreeing that CIA involvement was unacceptable, Dean said Gray's cancellation of his appointment with Helms might be reversed in next few hours.

5 July 1972

5 July 1972 memo

Gray called Walters to say that pressures on him to continue the investigation were great and unless he had a document from Walters he would have to go ahead with the investigation of Dahlberg and Daguerre. He had talked to John Dean. Walters said he would get an answer to him by 1000 on 6 July.

6 July 1972

6 July 1972 memo

Walters met with Gray at the FBI. He gave him a statement covering CIA relationships with the Watergate suspects. Walters said he could not write a letter stating that the investigation would endanger CIA operations. If directed to do so he would request an appointment with the President.

Walters and Gray were in agreement.

12 July 1972

13 July 1972 memo

Walters met Gray at the FBI. He told him that since the last meeting he had learned of assistance given Hunt by the Agency, terminated in August 1971.

Gray repeated a conversation with the President (when the President called to congratulate him on handling a plane hi-jacking). Gray told the President the investigation could not be suppressed and that he (the President) should get rid of the people involved. Gray repeated the conversation to Dean in a separate conversation the same day.

Gray stated to Walters that he had been asked to stop a subpoena of the U. S. Attorney for financial records of the Committee to Re-elect the President. He referred the person to the Attorney General.

28 July 1972

28 July 1972 memo

Walters called on Gray at the FBI. They discussed the identity of [redacted] the CIA technical officer, [redacted] who gave a recorder to Hunt. He also outlined other support given Hunt--documents, disguise, camera, photograph processing. Walters told Gray that the last contact with Hunt was 31 August 1971.

Gray asked Walters if the President had spoken to him. Walters replied in the negative. Gray said there was a lot of pressure on the matter but that he had not yielded. He said it was largely a money matter.

9 February
1973 by "JRS"
(DCI)

9 February 1973 memo

This memo reports a telephone call at 6:10 P.M. from John Dean of the White House.

Referring to a package of CIA material sent the Department of Justice in connection with the Watergate investigation he suggested the Agency retrieve it, leaving only a card in Justice's files indicating the package had been returned as no longer needed "for purposes of the investigation."

Dean also asked about the pending ITT Senate hearing. He was told that the files seem to show the government clean.

He said Seymour Hersh of NYT had a story that Sturgis was implicated in the Chilean Embassy break-in.

Discussion with Colby produced information that Sturgis had not been a CIA employee for a number of years and that the Agency had no connection with the Chilean Embassy affair.

~~11~~ May 1973

21 Feb

11 May 1973 memo

Walters called on Dean saying that the Agency could not retrieve the material at Justice. It would simply mean that a note would be at Justice that the material had been sent back to the Agency, which was subject to a request that it not destroy any material in any way involved in the case.

Walters told Dean that the Agency was not involved in the case and that any attempt to involve the Agency could only be harmful to the U. S.